

"You Win Some, You Lose Some"
by Marshal Younger

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Below is a script just like the ones used in the studio to record the voices of the real Adventures in Odyssey actors! You can read it or act it out with your friends. If you perform it for an audience, just make sure you don't change it or collect any money for it. And if you want to hear how the finished show sounds, this episode is included in the newest album #33, **Virtual Realities**.

You will need 5 people to play all the parts:

Tom Riley
Connie Kendall
Liz
Heather
Wendy



You Win Some, You Lose Some
Written by: Marshal Younger
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Scene 1 - TIMOTHY CENTER, TOM'S OFFICE
(CONNIE, TOM)
TOM is on the phone.

TOM

All right. Well, thank you for calling.

TOM hangs up. CONNIE knocks.

CONNIE

Tom, you busy?

TOM

Connie! No, not at all. In fact, I was just about to come and find you.

CONNIE

Well, I wanted to see you, too. I need to tell you about the last week with the middle school girls.

TOM

Oh. Okay.

CONNIE

Well... we hiked... we had a campfire... I counseled... I cleaned... we had a campfire...

TOM

You said that.

CONNIE

Oh, yeah. But there's one main thing that came out of it that I really need to tell you.

TOM

What's that?

CONNIE
I quit.

TOM
What?

Music bridge to...

Scene 2 - TOM'S OFFICE
(CONNIE, TOM)

TOM
You quit?!

CONNIE
I'm giving you my two-week's notice.

TOM
Why?

CONNIE
Cause I don't have what it takes to be a counselor.

TOM
All right, Connie. Spill it. What's going on?

CONNIE
It's just that... have kids gotten meaner over the years?

TOM
(chuckles)
You're not supposed to say things like that until you're sixty.
Why?

CONNIE
'Cause I was excited at the beginning of the week. I remember going
to girl's camp when I was that age and I loved it. But I don't
remember being so mean.

TOM
What happened?

CONNIE
Along with the usual crew of Odyssey kids, I also had a girl named
Wendy. She wasn't a very social person or well dressed like the
others. But she was a nice girl...

Scene 2 - REC CENTER
(LIZ, HEATHER, WENDY, CONNIE)

Four girls are playing Ping-Pong. We come in mid-point.

HEATHER
Out!

LIZ
Come on, Wendy!

WENDY
I'm sorry, I'm not very good at this.

HEATHER

That's okay. I get to change partners next game.

CONNIE

Liz, that's enough.

HEATHER

Advantage Miss Johnson and Miss Parker.

LIZ

Just serve it, Wendy.

WENDY serves it off the table.

LIZ

I meant serve it on the table.

HEATHER

Game, set, and match to Miss Johnson and Miss Parker. six-love, six-love.

LIZ

It was 21 to 5, thank you. Just give me a new partner.

CONNIE

Liz, cut it out or you won't be playing another game.

LIZ

Jill! Come be my partner!

Another game starts.

WENDY

Connie, I don't wanna play anymore.

CONNIE

Wendy, don't worry about them.

WENDY

It's not them. I don't even want to be here. My dad made me come.

CONNIE

This is a pretty fun place if you give it a chance. Forget Ping-Pong. Let's do something you enjoy.

WENDY

I don't enjoy anything.

CONNIE

Oh, c'mon. Everyone enjoys something. Tell me, what do you like doing?

WENDY

Well... I kind of like to cook.

CONNIE

Cooking! Perfect! Right after we're done here, we'll head to the kitchen.

WENDY

Just you and me?

CONNIE

Sure. Tom's giving a tour of the farm, and you and I can stay behind and make something. What do you say?

WENDY

Okay.

Music bridge to...

Scene 3 - Cafeteria

(CONNIE, LIZ, HEATHER, WENDY)

CONNIE

Girls, we have plenty left over if you want seconds.

LIZ

Seconds of this? Nothing like kicking somebody when they're down.

CONNIE

Thank you, Liz. By the way... you all have a brownie on your plate. I thought you should know that Wendy here made those from scratch.

HEATHER

Really? You're a cook?

WENDY

Well... I like it.

LIZ

Let's see how good you are.
(bites, mouth full)
Hey, these aren't bad.

HEATHER

Yeah. They're great!

LIZ

At least something decent came out of this meal. Can we have seconds on the brownies?

CONNIE

You sure can.

LIZ

All right.

WENDY

Thanks, Connie.

CONNIE

No problem, Wendy.

Music bridge to...

Scene 4 - Cabin, That Night

(CONNIE, WENDY, LIZ, HEATHER)

Lots of moaning and retching (more moaning, actually).

CONNIE

What's going on in here? It's almost midnight. Why is the light on?

HEATHER

We're sick.

CONNIE

Who?

LIZ

Everyone.

CONNIE

Oh no. There must've been something wrong with the chicken.

HEATHER

'Fraid not, cause I didn't eat the chicken.

LIZ

We already figured it out. The only thing we all ate was Wendy's Death Brownies.

CONNIE

Uh oh.

LIZ

Where'd you get the recipe, Wendy? The Home Barfing Network?

WENDY

I'm sorry. I didn't do it on purpose.

CONNIE

Wait a minute -- Wendy doesn't look sick.

WENDY

I didn't have any brownies.

CONNIE

Oh.

LIZ

She didn't even eat her own cooking. That should've told us something... oh no - gangway!!

She rushes off.

WENDY

(upset)

Excuse me...

CONNIE

Wait, uh, Wendy, where are you going? Liz, are you okay? I'd better call the doctor.

Music bridge to...

Scene 5 - OUTSIDE CABIN

(CONNIE, WENDY)

CONNIE

Hey Wendy.

WENDY

Anybody have any guts left in there?

CONNIE

Dr. Morton is taking care of them now. They'll be fine.

WENDY

No thanks to me. Even when I mind my own business, I still manage to ruin everyone's good time.

CONNIE

Wendy.

WENDY

Come to camp for an enjoyable week of hiking, sports and sunshine -- oh, and if Wendy's there, you'll also get your stomach pumped.

CONNIE

It wasn't your fault. It's mine. I should've checked the ingredients more thoroughly.

WENDY

It wouldn't have mattered. Everything I do goes wrong.

CONNIE

That's not true. Everybody loved your brownies.

WENDY

Yeah - all the way to the hospital.

CONNIE

No one went to the hospital. Wendy, the only way you're going to succeed at something is to stop thinking of yourself as a failure.

WENDY

Failing is the only thing I'm good at.

CONNIE

That's only because you stop trying. For a short time you were their hero. You did something most of them probably couldn't have done at all. You can do it again.

WENDY

Oh, sure and why don't you throw gasoline on the campfire while you're at it.

CONNIE

C'mon. Do you like chocolate chip cookies?

WENDY

Yeah.

CONNIE

Then let's make a batch. I'll meet you in the kitchen at 11:00 tomorrow morning. And this time I'll make sure we have all new ingredients.

WENDY

(sighs)

Oh ... all right.

CONNIE

Great!

Music bridge to...

Scene 6 - CAFETERIA
(CONNIE, WENDY, LIZ, HEATHER)

CONNIE

Ok, listen up! I want everyone to know that Wendy made the cookies,
and this time I made sure that the ingredients were brand new, right
from the package. So, eat up!

LIZ

No way.

HEATHER

Thanks, Connie, but no thanks.

CONNIE

Why not?

LIZ

We believe in Wendy's law of Reverse Gravity.

HEATHER

Yeah -- what goes down must come up.

CONNIE

I told you guys the brownies weren't her fault. Now she worked hard
on these and I want you to eat them.

WENDY

They don't have to eat the cookies, Connie.

CONNIE

Come on, everyone. Take a bite.

LIZ

All right. But the emergency room bill is coming straight to your
house.

Everyone takes a bite. Suddenly, we hear people spitting it out and gagging. Sounds a lot like the previous
night.

LIZ

Gross!

CONNIE

Oh, Liz, come on.

HEATHER

Disgusting!

WENDY

I knew it!

CONNIE

They're just joking, Wendy.

LIZ

Yeah? Then you eat one!

CONNIE

Fine.

(Beat, then stifled:)

Ugh! Wendy, what did you put in these?

WENDY

I did the recipe from memory: "4 teaspoons baking soda, 8 cups flour, 2 teaspoons of sugar, 3 cups of salt, 4 eggs-"

CONNIE

Wait a minute. Did you say 3 cups of salt?

WENDY

Yeah, I- Oh, no! I got the salt and sugar mixed up!

LIZ

Hurricane Wendy strikes again!

(going off)

Water! I need water!

CONNIE

You know, it's actually kinda funny if you think about it.

WENDY

Thanks a lot, Connie.

WENDY leaves.

CONNIE

Wendy, wait! Wendy!

(to herself)

Oh, boy. I need some water.

Music bridge to...

[COMMERCIAL #2]

Scene 7 - Tom's Office

(CONNIE, TOM)

CONNIE

After the cookie fiasco, Wendy didn't talk to me the rest of the week.

TOM

Connie, you know that wasn't your fault. You gave her the right advice. It just didn't work out too well.

CONNIE

Well, that never happens to Whit. Or you.

TOM

It did when we first started. Working with young people takes practice. You can't pack it in over one bad experience.

CONNIE

I'm not done, Tom. My week wasn't over yet.

TOM

There's more?

CONNIE

Liz and Heather. That same night they sneaked out of their cabin and I put them on restriction the next day. It wasn't a pretty sight. But then, something unexpected happened the next night.

Music bridge to...

Scene 8 - Creek bank.

(CONNIE, HEATHER)

CONNIE

(Off)

Heather? What are you doing? We're about to have chapel.

Heather sniffles.

CONNIE

What's the matter?

HEATHER

This morning I mixed honey in with Mary Beth's shampoo. Now she's walking around with leaves and stuff stuck to her head. She has no idea.

CONNIE

Officially, don't do that again. Unofficially, it's pretty funny.

HEATHER

Not really. I feel bad for her. I mean, everybody's laughing behind her back. Why do I do stuff like that? I didn't used to.

CONNIE

No, you didn't.

HEATHER

When I was little I found this grasshopper in the yard that had a broken leg. I actually took it inside and made it a splint with a toothpick.

CONNIE

Really?

HEATHER

Of course, the toothpick was longer than the rest of his legs, so he walked on a slant and his face dragged on the ground. But it was the thought that counted. I was kind then. Why not now?

CONNIE

Maybe the change has something to do with Liz?

HEATHER

Could be. I mean, she squashes bugs.

CONNIE

And you like trying to impress her.

HEATHER

I don't like it. I just do it.

CONNIE

Have you told her how you feel?

HEATHER

I could never say that to Liz.

CONNIE

You're afraid to tell Liz that you have a conscience and don't want to do bad things anymore?

HEATHER

She'd just call me a loser and slip a piece of sandpaper into my sandwich.

CONNIE

Actually I think deep down Liz is really a sweet person. She just needs a friend to tell her enough's enough.

HEATHER

You mean me?

CONNIE

Look don't let her drag you into being somebody you're not. A true friend wouldn't do that anyway.

HEATHER

Maybe you're right.

(Beat)

I'll talk to her.

CONNIE

Good.

Music bridge to...

Scene 9 - Cabin

(CONNIE, LIZ)

CONNIE

Okay, find your partner and head for the woods. Try not to-- Liz? What are you doing? Why aren't you coming?

LIZ

I'm staying here.

CONNIE

(calls)

Hey, go on, you guys. I'll catch up to you in a bit.

CONNIE comes back and closes the door.

CONNIE

So... You still mad at me or is there something else?

LIZ

I'm not going on another nature hike. I'm sick of nature. I wanna be unnatural for a while. I just wanna go home to my aluminum

siding house and watch TV and eat processed foods all day.

CONNIE

You want me to call your parents to come get you?

LIZ

No, they'd make me stay.

CONNIE

Then what do you want?

LIZ

I just want to be alone. Away from losers for one minute. This camp is so full of losers. And whiners. And backstabbers.

CONNIE

Backstabbers?

LIZ

Yeah! They ignore other people... and they never consider my feelings. I'm not this awful person who wants to be bad, you know. I'm a human being and I need friends.

CONNIE

Liz.

LIZ

Yeah?

CONNIE

Do you realize that you stopped talking about the losers and you started talking about yourself?

LIZ

So?

CONNIE

So I think this is really about you... isn't it?

LIZ

Maybe... maybe I'm one of the losers.

CONNIE

I don't think so. You just need to stop acting like a tough girl and start acting like yourself.

LIZ

Easy to say, not so easy to do.

CONNIE

You'll never be happy if you don't feel comfortable being yourself in front of people.

LIZ

That's true. I've never felt comfortable anywhere.

CONNIE

Then why don't you just be yourself tonight.

LIZ

What do you mean?

CONNIE

At the campfire. I'll give everyone a chance to talk. Why don't you tell everyone what you just told me?

LIZ

(Beat)

Maybe I will.

Music bridge to...

Scene 10 - Campfire

(CONNIE, LIZ, HEATHER)

CONNIE

Everybody warm enough?

GIRLS

Yeah.

CONNIE

It's been a good week so far, hasn't it? I wanted to take some time tonight for us to get to know each other better - maybe share some things we've learned or felt this week. Anyone?

HEATHER

Connie.

CONNIE

Yeah, Heather?

HEATHER

I'd like to say something.

CONNIE

Okay.

HEATHER

I just want to apologize... especially to you, Connie, for all the mean things I've done this week. I really don't like doing those things. I guess I just thought it would make Liz like me more.

LIZ

Wait a minute. Heather, you were trying to impress me?

HEATHER

I didn't want you to think I was a loser. Too late for that, huh?

LIZ

No! Heather, you shouldn't apologize, I should! It's all my fault. I'm always acting like this big, tough person, but... I'm just like you are. I need a friend. I'm sorry I acted like that.

They hug tearfully.

HEATHER

It's okay. I'm sorry I didn't consider your feelings more.

LIZ

Forget it. I've been such a jerk. When you failed that geometry test last week, I acted like I didn't even care.

For the rest of this conversation, after every line, Liz and Heather have a short chorus of crying.

HEATHER

I forgive you. But I have to confess something too. Remember science class when we were supposed to watch the video of the humpback whale? I was the one who switched the tapes and had them show you swimming at Trickle Lake.

LIZ

That's okay. I used your nail file to scrape away old peanut butter out of my locker.

HEATHER

I gave Clutzy Carl your phone number and told him you wanted to go mountain climbing with him.

LIZ

You remember when your Dad was running for City Council? I'm the one that told the press that he sometimes has delusions of being Harry Truman.

CONNIE

What?

HEATHER

You know that awful country song on the radio--"I'm on the Self-Serve Island at the gas station of life"? I wrote that.

CONNIE

What are you guys talking about?

LIZ

You know how they never found out who fired the first shot of the Revolutionary War?

CONNIE

Hey! What's going on?

LIZ and HEATHER burst out laughing.

LIZ

Woo!

HEATHER

That was awesome!

LIZ

How did you come up with that gas station thing?

HEATHER

I loved the peanut butter one.

CONNIE

What are you two doing?

LIZ

We nailed you, Connie. With the greatest practical joke ever.

HEATHER

We're going down in history for this one.

CONNIE

Practical joke? You mean... you made this up?

LIZ

Sure.

CONNIE

How much of it?

LIZ

Everything. From Heather crying by the creek, to me in the cabin.
You thought you were this awesome counselor.

HEATHER

Great prank, huh?

CONNIE

Yeah... hilarious. Listen... you guys enjoy the fire. I've got
some work to do. I'll send Tom over.

CONNIE leaves. Music bridge to...

Scene 11 - Tom's Office
(CONNIE, TOM)

CONNIE

There aren't many things worse than thinking you've made a
difference and finding out you didn't.

TOM

That was a pretty dirty trick all right. Maybe kids are getting
meaner.

CONNIE

Which brings us to Saturday ...

TOM

Oh, yes - the food fight...

CONNIE

You know about that?

TOM

Oh, yeah. I heard it started when you left during breakfast to check
on the buses...

Music: Brief bridge.

Scene 12 - Cafeteria
(CONNIE, LIZ, HEATHER)

LIZ

Look at that. Tsk tsk. She left the room. Still trusts us after
all this time. We can't let her get away with that.

HEATHER

What are you talking about?

LIZ

Ever wanted to make a mess you knew you wouldn't have to clean up?

HEATHER

Liz, give her a break.

LIZ

Did she give us a break this week? No. It was just like being at school.

HEATHER

What are you gonna do?

LIZ

(Loudly)

Hey, could I have your attention please?

Everyone quiets down.

LIZ

Since this is the last day of camp, I just wanted to say one thing... Food fight!

She throws something, and it hits WENDY.

WENDY

Hey!

LIZ

Come on, Wendy! Throw something back! Otherwise, it's not a food fight, it's a food... toss. Come on, you guys! Let's make one final camp memory. Heather... Have a scrambled egg.

She throws it at HEATHER, and it hits her.

HEATHER

Hey! You want a biscuit and gravy in your face?

LIZ

I'd love it!

HEATHER throws it at her. They throw stuff back and forth until we hear other girls getting involved, and soon about five girls are involved in the food fight.

HEATHER

Ow! Orange juice in my eye!

LIZ

Hey! Stop! Connie!

Everyone stops.

CONNIE

(coming on)

Okay, ladies, the bus will be here in-

(gasps)

All right, who did this?!

(Beat, then defeated)

You know what? I don't wanna know. The bus'll be here in a few minutes. You all just ... go.

They file out quietly. Wendy approaches Connie.

WENDY

Connie, I know who started it.

CONNIE

It's okay, Wendy. I said I didn't wanna know.

WENDY

But ... do you want me to help you clean up?

CONNIE

No, I'll do it. You go on now or you'll miss your bus.

Music: Brief Bridge.

Scene 13 - Tom's Office
(CONNIE, TOM)

CONNIE

Wait a minute. How do you know what happened?

TOM

I'll get to that in a minute. First, why didn't you want to know who started it?

CONNIE

I guess I was so discouraged I really didn't care. Besides, I had a feeling it was Liz.

TOM

Well, just for the record, I called her parents. She will be punished, and she won't be coming back here next year.

CONNIE

I was just so stunned I didn't know how to handle it-or anything the entire week.

TOM

Actually, I think you did very well. Even at Saturday's breakfast.

CONNIE

I didn't do anything at breakfast.

TOM

I know someone who would disagree. Two people, in fact.

CONNIE

Who?

TOM

Well, the first one is Wendy.

CONNIE

Wendy?!

TOM

When she left you, she didn't go wait for the bus. She watched you from the window for a few minutes, then came and found me. She told

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me the whole story - how Liz started it all, how you kept your cool and cleaned up the mess. You made quite an impression on her.

CONNIE

I thought I ruined her life.

TOM

She knew you were just trying to help. That's more than she gets from most people. At least, that's what Mrs. Zannuck says.

CONNIE

Who's Mrs. Zannuck?

TOM

Wendy's mother. I just got this note from her. She wanted me to thank you for-- well here, read it yourself.

He hands her the note.

CONNIE

(reads)

"Please thank Connie for being such an influence on my daughter. Wendy told me that all week long, another girl, Liz, tried to get to her, and yet, Connie never lost her cool. Even after the food fight, Connie didn't complain or moan or groan, she just quietly did her job. The way she handled herself all week was a great lesson to Wendy. Connie showed her what Jesus was like - a true servant..."
Wow ... But I feel like I didn't do *anything*.

TOM

That's the way it works sometimes. You win some, you lose some... and some you win without ever knowing it.

CONNIE

Yeah, I guess so.

TOM

You did a great job this week, Connie, and I'd love for you to stay with us. You will, won't you?

CONNIE

Will you blame me if I counsel somebody and they end up throwing themselves out a window?

TOM

It'll never happen.

CONNIE

Thanks.

TOM

The cabin windows are plexiglass. Very strong.

CONNIE

I appreciate your confidence.

TOM laughs.
Music rises to...

...The End.

